

## **Illinois Department of Insurance**



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## Illinois Department of Insurance Announces Free, One-on-One Medicare Counseling Services

Volunteers provide help with Medicare options in Montgomery County; pre-registration is required

**SPRINGFIELD** – Governor Pat Quinn and the Illinois Department of Insurance announce free, one-on-one counseling services in Montgomery County to help educate Medicare-eligible individuals and their caregivers about available insurance options. The Department's Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is conducting a series of counseling sessions statewide to assist Medicare-eligible individuals with the Medicare open enrollment season, which runs from November 15th through December 31st.

Pre-registration for appointments is required by calling the Litchfield Family Practice & Montgomery County Health Department in Litchfield at (217) 787-9234. SHIP volunteers are also available year-round to answer Medicare questions. For a list of SHIP volunteers in your area please visit the SHIP website at <a href="http://insurance.lllinois.gov/SHIP">http://insurance.lllinois.gov/SHIP</a> or call SHIP toll-free at (800) 548-9034.

SHIP sessions in Montgomery County are scheduled as follows:

November 16 & December 2 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Litchfield Family Practice & Montgomery County Health Department Litchfield, IL

Through its staff and a network of hundreds of trained volunteers in more than 180 sites throughout the State, SHIP assists Illinoisans who have questions about or problems with:

- Medicare
- Medicare supplemental insurance
- Medicare Advantage Plans (HMO, PPO, and PFFS)
- Medicare claims and appeals
- Prescription drug coverage through Medicare and other sources
- Long term care insurance

Every SHIP office is volunteer-based and supported by local sponsoring organizations.

For more information about SHIP, including information about SHIP volunteers in your area, please visit the SHIP Web site or call the SHIP toll-free hotline at (800) 548-9034. You can also visit the Department of Insurance's Web site at www.insurance.illinois.gov or call our toll-free hotline at (866) 445-5364.

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